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THE DEMOCRAT

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TERMS OF THE PAPER—\$5 per annum in advance,
or \$6 at the end of the year.
No subscription will be received for a less term than
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arrearages have been paid.

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of annual advertisements is limited to their immediate
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name will be inserted unless we are specially au-
thorized by some responsible person.

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double price.

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with the office, must be post paid, or they will not
be attended to.



BY AUTHORITY.

LAW OF THE UNITED STATES, PASSED AT THE
SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH CON-
GRESS.

[PUBLIC—No. 16.]

AN ACT making appropriations for the support of
the army for the year one thousand eight hun-
dred and thirty-eight.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States in Congress assem-
bled, That the following sums be, and the same
are hereby appropriated, to be paid out of any
money in the Treasury, not otherwise appro-
priated, for the support of the army, during the year
eighteen hundred and thirty-eight; that is to say:
For the pay of the army, one million and ninety-
one thousand one hundred and ninety-three dollars:
For the subsistence of officers, three hundred and
thirty-seven thousand seven hundred and forty-nine
dollars:
For the forage of officers' horses, seventy thousand
nine hundred and eighty-seven dollars:
For clothing for officers' servants, twenty-six
thousand five hundred and fifty dollars:
For payments in lieu of clothing to discharged sol-
diers, thirty thousand dollars:
For subsistence, exclusive of that of officers, seven
hundred and thirty thousand nine hundred and
twenty dollars and fifty cents:
For clothing of the army, camp and garrison
equipment, cooking utensils, and hospital furniture,
four hundred and thirteen thousand two hundred
and ninety-nine dollars:
For the medical and hospital department, thirty-
nine thousand two hundred dollars:
For the regular supplies furnished by the Quar-
termaster's department, consisting of fuel, forage,
straw, stationery, and printing, two hundred and
three thousand dollars:
For barracks, quarters, store-houses, embracing
the repairs and enlargement of barracks, quarters,
store-houses, and hospitals, at the several posts;
the erection of temporary cantonments at such posts
as shall be occupied during the year, and of gun-
houses for the protection of cannon at the forts on
the seaboard; and the purchase of the necessary
tools and materials for the objects wanted; and of
the authorized furniture for the barracks rooms; rent
of quarters for officers; of barracks of troops at
posts where there are no public buildings for their
accommodations; of store-houses for the safe-keeping
of subsistence, clothing, &c. and of grounds for
summer cantonments, encampments, and military
practice, ninety-five thousand dollars:
For the allowance made to officers for the trans-
portation of their baggage, when traveling on duty
without troops, fifty thousand dollars:
For the transportation of troops and supplies, viz:
transportation of the army, including the baggage
of troops when moving either by land or water,
freight and ferriages, purchase or hire of horses,
mules, oxen, carts, wagons, and boats, for the pur-
pose of transportation, or for the use of garrison;
drayage and cartage at the several posts; hire of
transports; transportation of funds for the pay de-
partment; expense of sailing a public transport be-
tween the ports on the Gulf of Mexico, and of pro-
tecting water at such posts as, from their situation,
require it; the transportation of clothing from the
depot at Philadelphia, to the stations of the troops;
of subsistence from the places of purchase, and the
points of delivery under contracts, to such places as
the circumstances of the service may require it to
be sent; of ordnance from the foundries and arsenals
to the fortifications and frontier posts, and of lead
from the western mines to the several arsenals, the
sum of one hundred and ninety-five thousand
dollars:
For the incidental expenses of the Quartermas-
ter's department, consisting of postage on public let-
ters and packets; expenses of courts martial and
courts of inquiry; including the compensation of
judges, advocates, members, and witnesses; extra
pay to soldiers, under an act of Congress of the second
of March, eighteen hundred and nineteen; of the
necessary articles for the internment of non-com-
missioned officers and soldiers; hire of laborers; com-
pensation to clerks in the offices of quartermasters
and assistant quartermasters at posts where their
duties cannot be performed without such aid, and to
temporary agents in charge of dismantled works,
and in the performance of other duties, expendi-
tures necessary to keep the two regiments of dragoons
complete, including the purchase of horses to
supply the place of those which may be lost and be-
come unfit for service, and the erection of additional
stables, ninety-two thousand dollars:
For two months' extra pay to re-enlisted soldiers,
and for the contingent expenses of the recruiting
service, twenty-four thousand two hundred and six-
ty-four dollars:
For the national armories, three hundred and
sixty thousand dollars:
For the armament of the fortifications, one hun-
dred thousand dollars:
For the current expenses of the ordnance service,
ninety-eight thousand dollars:
For arsenals, one hundred and fifty thousand dol-
lars, or so much thereof as may be sufficient to com-
plete the arsenals already commenced, and those on
the western frontier:
For the manufacture of elevating machines for
barricade and casemate carriages, five thousand dol-
lars:
For the purchase and manufacture of light field
artillery, thirty-nine thousand nine hundred and fifty-
three dollars:
For the purchase of gunpowder and grape shot,
thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars.

For arrearages payable through the office of the
Second Auditor, twelve hundred dollars.

For arrearages payable through the office of the
Third Auditor, three thousand dollars.

For taxes on the Passyunk arsenal, near Philadel-
phia, for the year eighteen hundred and thirty-seven
and eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, fourteen
hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingencies of the army, five thousand dol-
lars.

For paying the balance due the heirs of William
Medburn, one of the commissioners for surveying
and marking the road from La Placense Bay to
Chicago, two hundred and sixty-eight dollars and
fifty-five cents.

For paying Adam Eckfeldt, for fine gold and other
expenses incurred by him in preparing nine medals
ordered by Congress for various distinguished
officers, one thousand and eight dollars and eighty-
six cents.

JAMES K. POLK,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
R. M. JOHNSON,
Vice President of the United States
and President of the Senate.

Approved, April 6th, 1838.

M. VAN BUREN.

[PUBLIC—No. 17.]

AN ACT directing the transfer of money remain-
ing unclaimed by certain pensioners, and author-
izing the payment of the same at the Treasury of
the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States in Congress assem-
bled, That all money which has been, or may here-
after be, transmitted to the agents for paying pen-
sions, which may have remained, or may hereafter
remain, in the hands of said agents unclaimed by
any pensioner or pensioners for the term of
eight months after the same may have or may be-
come due and payable, shall be transferred to the
Treasury of the United States; and that all pen-
sions unclaimed as aforesaid, shall be thereafter pay-
able only at the Treasury of the United States, and
out of any money not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the
transfer directed by the first section of this act shall
be made by the draft of the Commissioner of Pen-
sions upon the agents for paying pensions, and in
favor of the Treasurer of the United States; and that
the form of said draft shall be prescribed by the
Secretary of War.

Approved, April 6th, 1838.

[PUBLIC—No. 18.]

AN ACT to amend the act for quieting professions,
enrolling conveyances, and securing the estates of
purchasers, within the District of Columbia,
passed the thirty-first day of May, eighteen hun-
dred and thirty-two.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States in Congress assem-
bled, That the clerks of the circuit courts,
of the District of Columbia, and their deputies, in
their respective counties, shall be, and are hereby,
authorized and required to admit to record any con-
veyance whereby a right, title, or interest, in real
estate is conveyed, or purports to be, lying within
the limits of their respective counties, upon the cer-
tificate under seal of any two justices of the peace
of any State or Territory of the United States, or of
the District of Columbia, annexed to such deed, and
to the following effect, to wit:

County for Corporation, &c. to wit:
We, A. B. and C. D., justices of the peace in and
for the county for corporation, parish, or district,
aforesaid, in the State for Territory, or district,
aforesaid, do hereby certify that E. F., a party for E.
F. and G. H., &c. parties, to a certain deed, bearing
date on the day of the month of the year aforesaid,
personally appeared before us in our county
for corporation, &c. aforesaid, the said E. F. for E.
F. and G. H., &c. being personally well known to
us, as [or proved by the oaths of credible witnesses
before us to be] the person who executed the said
deed, and acknowledged the same to be his [her, or
their] act and deed. Given under our hands and seals
this day of the month of the year aforesaid.

Provided, That, when such acknowledgment
shall be taken before any justices of the peace be-
yond the limits of the District of Columbia, there
shall accompany such certificate of acknowledgment
a certificate of the clerk or other public officer
having official cognizance of the fact, under his offi-
cial seal, that such persons were, at the date of their
said certificate, in fact, justices as they purport to
be.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That every con-
veyance, covenant, agreement and other deed, (ex-
cept deeds of trust and mortgages) which shall be
acknowledged, or proved, and certified, according to
law, and delivered to the clerk of the proper court,
to be recorded within six months after the sealing
and delivery thereof, shall take effect and be valid
as to all persons from the time of such acknowledgment
or proof; but all deeds of trust and mortgages
whenever they shall be delivered to the clerk of the
proper court to be recorded, and all other con-
veyances, covenants, agreements, and deeds, which
shall not be acknowledged, proved, or certified,
and delivered to the clerk of the proper court to be re-
corded within six months after the sealing and de-
livery thereof, shall take effect and be valid, as to
all subsequent purchasers for valuable consideration,
without notice, and as to all creditors, from the
time when such deed of trust or mortgage, or such
other conveyance, covenant, agreement, or deed,
shall have been so acknowledged, proved, or cer-
tified, and delivered to the clerk of the proper court
to be recorded, and from that time only; Provided,
however, That if two or more deeds containing the
same property, after having been so acknowledged,
or proved and certified, be delivered to the clerk to
be recorded on the same day, that which shall have
been first sealed and delivered shall have preference
in law.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That every title-
bond, or other written contract in relation to
land, may be proved, acknowledged, certified, and
recorded, in the same manner as deeds for the con-
veyance of land; and such proof or acknowledgment,
and certificate, and the delivery of such bond
or contract to the clerk of the proper court, to be re-
corded, shall be taken and held to be notice of all
subsequent purchasers of the existence of such bond
or contract.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That, if any
feme covert shall be a party executing such deed,
and shall only be relinquishing her right of dower in
such estate or interest, or when a husband and his
wife shall have sealed and delivered a writing pur-
porting to be a conveyance of any estate or interest,
and such feme covert shall appear before any two
justices of the peace of any State or Territory of
the United States, or of the District of Columbia,
and, being by them examined privily and apart
from her husband, and acknowledging the same to be
her act and deed, and shall declare that she had wil-
lingly signed, sealed, and delivered the same, and that
she wished not to retract it; and such privy exami-
nation, acknowledgment, and declaration, shall be
certified by such justices under their hands and seals,
by a certificate annexed to such writing, and to the
following effect; that is to say:

County for corporation, &c. to wit:
We, A. B. and C. D., justices of the peace in the
county for corporation, &c. aforesaid, in the State
for Territory, &c. of the county for corporation, &c.
aforesaid, do hereby certify that E. F. the wife of G. H., party to a certain deed bearing
date on the day of the month of the year aforesaid,
personally appeared before us in our county for
corporation, &c. aforesaid, the said E. F. be-

ing well known to us as [or proved, by the oaths of
credible witnesses before us to be] the person who
executed the said deed, and being by us examined,
privily and apart from her husband, and having the
deed addressed fully explained to her, she, the said
E. F., acknowledged the same to be her act and deed,
and declared that she had willingly signed, sealed,
and delivered the same, and that she wished not to
retract it. Given under our hands and seals this
day of the month of the year aforesaid.

A. B. [SEAL.]
C. D. [SEAL.]

And such certificate shall be offered for record to
the clerk of the circuit court of the District of Co-
lumbia, in that county in which such deed ought to
be recorded. It shall be the duty of such clerk to
record the same accordingly; and when the privy
examination, acknowledgment and declaration of a
married woman, shall have been so taken and cer-
tified, and delivered to the clerk to be recorded pur-
suant to the directions of this act, such deed shall be
as effectual in law to pass her right, title, and interest,
as if she had been an unmarried woman: Pro-
vided, however, That no covenant or warranty con-
tained in such deed hereafter executed, shall in any
manner operate upon any feme covert, or her heirs,
purporting to convey effectually from such feme
covert and her heirs, her right of dower or other in-
terest in real estate which she may have at the date
of such deed.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That all
deeds heretofore recorded within the District of Co-
lumbia, and in the county wherein any lands, tenements
and hereditaments are situated, which are
conveyed in or by said deeds, on an acknowledgment
before any two justices of the peace for said
District, shall be good and effectual for the purpose
or purposes therein mentioned, and valid as to all
subsequent purchasers, and all creditors, from the
passage of this act, Provided, said deeds were made
in good faith, and without an intent to commit a
fraud upon creditors or bona fide subsequent pur-
chasers.

Approved, April 20th, 1838.

[PUBLIC—No. 19.]

AN ACT for the benefit of the Levy Court of Cal-
vert county, in the State of Maryland.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States in Congress assem-
bled, That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby
authorized and required to pay, to any one duly
authorized by the levy court of Calvert county, in the
State of Maryland, out of any money in the Treasury
not otherwise appropriated, the sum of three thousand
dollars, in full satisfaction for the destruction of the
court-house of said county by the enemy during the
late war with Great Britain, while same was in the
military occupancy of the United States, and in con-
sequence thereof destroyed by fire.

Approved, April 20th, 1838.

[PUBLIC—No. 20.]

AN ACT making an appropriation for the removal
of the great raft of Red river.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States in Congress assem-
bled, That the sum of seventy thousand
dollars be appropriated, out of any money in the
Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the com-
plete removal of the great raft in Red river, in the
State of Louisiana and Arkansas.

Approved, April 20th, 1838.

Sadness.—There is a mysterious feeling that
frequently passes like a cloud over the spirit. It
comes upon the soul in the busy bustle of life, in
the social circle, in the calm and silent retreats of
solitude. Its powers are alike supreme over the
weak and the iron hearted. At one time it is
caused by the flitting of a single thought across
the mind. Again, a sound will come booming
across the ocean of memory, gloomy and solemn
as the death-knell, overshadowing all the bright
hopes and sunny feelings of the heart. Who can
describe it, and yet who has not felt its bewildering
influence? Still it is a delicious sort of sor-
row; and like a cloud dimming the sunshine of
the river, it enhances the beauty of returning bright-
ness.

PRINTERS.—The veteran printer Benjamin
Russell, related the following anecdote at a meet-
ing of the Mechanics' Library Association, in
Boston. It is interesting. Indeed every thing
is interesting with which the name of FRANK-
LIN is associated.

In 1775 (said he) I was driven from Boston,
by the revolutionary war, to Worcester. I there
went into the printing office of Isaiah Thomas.
I recollect one day BENJAMIN FRANKLIN came
into our office. That distinguished man could
pass a tavern or a house of amusement without
going in, but it was hard to pass a printing office
and not make it a short visit. So he came into
our office. We all knew his countenance. Pre-
sently he called all the boys around him and talked
to us. He said he was proud to have been a
printer. It was more honor than to be a states-
man, or an ambassador, or a ruler of men.—
Why? Because printing was so useful an art.
And he said, whatever is useful is honorable. I
(continued Mr. Russell) was the youngest boy in
the office, so he noticed me particularly, and the
following dialogue ensued between us. "What is
your name?" "Benjamin." "That's my
name. Where were you born?" "In Boston." "That's
where I was born. Whom did you go to school to?"
"To Mr. —." "So did I, once."

After this colloquy the Doctor again addressed
the boys, and ever after this, I loved my trade
more. I respected myself. I felt that I was doing
good.

"My dear sir," said an election acquaintance,
accessing a sturdy way the other day, "I'm very
glad to see you." "You needn't be—I've voted."

Reciprocating Favors.—The Christians in the
Sandwich Islands have established a monthly
concert to pray for the American heathen!

OPDS AND ENDS.—A good story is related of
President Humphrey, of Amherst College. One
morning, before recitation, some of the students
fastened a live goose in the President's chair.
When the President entered the room and discovered
the new occupant of his seat, he turned on his heel,
coolly observing, "Gentlemen, I perceive you have
a competent instructor, and I will therefore leave you
to your studies."

A Debatable Point.—The Richmond En-
quirer proposes a question which we would com-
mend to the attention of the Legion of Debating
Clubs. It is this—"Is John Q. Adams mad?"

A Hard Law.—The Emperor of Austria has
issued a decree "that no person male or female,
shall be married, who cannot read, write, cipher,
make out and cast up a common account." With
us, such a law would never do. The population
would be greatly impeded.

The Farmer.—With no inheritance but health,
no riches but industry, and no ambition but virtue,
is sole king among men and the only man among
kings.

RELIGION.

The mariner, when tempest driven
Upon a dark and stormy sea,
Lifts up his troubled eye to heaven,
In hope that there some guide may be.

And if perchance, some trembling star
Shines softly through the gloom of night,
He hails its radiance from afar—
Blessing its mild celestial light.

Thus when o'er life's tumultuous surge,
We struggle on through gloom and care,
While storms of grief and anguish urge
Our troubled spirits to despair.

Oh then, in that benighted hour,
One guide hath God in mercy given,
Shining with mild, benignant power,
To light our weary souls to Heaven.

RELIGION!—'tis the holy beam
That dissipates each cloud of gloom,
Brightens and cheers life's troubled dream,
And sheds a halo round the tomb.

MY HEART'S IN OLD IRELAND.

Text.—The Vale of Avon.

My heart on the billow dashed gloriously on,
And glad were the notes of the sailor boy's song;
Yet sad was my bosom, and burning with woe—
For my heart's in Old Ireland wherever I go.

Oh! my heart's in Old Ireland wherever I go.
More than the flowers all Italy yields,
Are the red-breasted daisies that spangle thy fields:
The shamrock, the hawthorn, the white blossomed rose.

For my heart's in Old Ireland wherever I go.
Oh! my heart's, &c.

The shores they look lively—yet cheerless and vain,
Blossom the lilies of France, and the olives of Spain.
When I thought on the fields where the wild daisies
grew.

For my heart's in Old Ireland wherever I go.
Oh! my heart's, &c.

The lilies and roses abandon the plain,
Though the summer's gone by, still the shamrock
remains.

Like a frail in misfortune it blooms o'er the snow;
My heart's in Old Ireland wherever I go.
Oh! my heart's, &c.

I sigh and I vow if ere I get home,
No more from my dear little cottage to roam;
The harp shall resound and the goblet shall flow—
For my heart's in Old Ireland wherever I go.

Oh! my heart's, &c.

THE BLIND BOY.

The day was bright and beautiful
The boys to play had gone—
Save one who sat beside the door,
Dejected and alone.

And as the tone of merry sport,
Came faintly to his ear,
He sighed, and from his swelling lips
He brushed the falling tear.

His little heart was rent with pain—
He could not join the play;
He could not run about the fields,
And by the brook side stray.

The rolling hoop, the bounding ball,
The kite borne by the wind—
The acorn butt were sought to him—
For he, alas! was blind!

He could not see the setting sun,
And watch the glowing skies—
The beauty of the moon and stars
Felt not upon his eyes.

The rainbow, when it spanned the clouds,
Was lost upon his sight—
And waving woods, and sparkling streams,
He felt all to his senseless night.

These truths came fresh upon his mind
While musing thus apart;
No wonder that the tear drop fell,
And heavy was his heart.

Al! little did the youthful throng,
Whose hearts were full of joy,
Reflect upon the lonely state
Of that poor orphan boy!

THE SPELLS OF HOME.

By the soft green light in the woody glade,
On the banks of moss where thy childhood play'd
By the waving tree thro' which the eye,
First look'd in love to the summer sky;

By the dewy gleam, by the very breath
Of the promise told in the grass beneath,
Upon thy heart there I laid a spell—
Holy and precious—oh! guard it well!

By the sleepy ripple of the stream,
Which hath led thee into many a dream;
By the slayer of the ivy leaves
To the wind of morn at thy casement eaves;

By the bees' deep murmur in the limes,
By the music of the Sabbath-chimes;
By every sound of thy native shade,
Stronger and dearer the spell is made.

By the gathering round the winter hearth,
When twilight called unto household mirth;
By the fire tale or the legend old
In that ring of happy faces told;

By the quiet hours when hearts unite
In the parting prayer, and the kind "Good night,"
By the smiling eye and the loving tone,
Over thy life has the spell been thrown.

And bless that gift—it hath gentle might,
A guardian power and a guiding light!
It hath led the freeman forth to stand
In the mountain-battles of his land;

It hath brought the wanderer o'er the sea,
To die on the hills of his own fresh breeze;
And back to the gates of his father's hall,
It hath won the weeping prodigal.

Yes! when thy heart in its pride would stray,
From the loves of its guileless youth away,
When the sultry breath of the world would come
O'er the flowers it brought from thy childhood's home;

Think thou again of the wondrous gleam,
And the sound by the rustling ivy made,
Think of the tree at the parent's door,
And the kindly spell shall have power once more.

The most trifling actions that affect a man's credit
are to be regarded. The sound of your hammer
at five in the morning, or nine at night, heard by a
creditor, makes him easy six months longer; but if
he sees you at a billiard table, or hears your voice at
a tavern, when you should be at work, he sends for
his money the next day.

There is no fooling with life, when it is once turned
beyond forty; the seeking of a fortune then is
but a desperate after game; it is a hundred to one
if a man fling two lucks, and recover all; especially
if his hand be no luckier than mine.

The man who will live above his present circum-
stances, is in great danger of living in a little time
much beneath them, or, as the Italian proverb says,
"The man who lives by hope will die by hunger."

He that would make a real progress in knowledge
must dedicate his age as well as his youth, the latter
growth as well as the first fruits, at the altar of truth.

The difference between a rich man and a poor
man is this: the former eats when he pleases, and
the latter when he can get it.

Lampoons and satires, that are written with wit
and spirit, are like poisoned darts, which not only
inflict a wound, but make it incurable.

Education begins the gentleman, but reading, good
company and reflection, must finish him.

The weak may be joked about anything but their
weakness.

[From the United States Democratic Review.]

AMOS KENDALL.

Our artist has been exceedingly happy in his
part of our present political portrait. The etching
on the opposite page will exhibit to those who do
not know the Postmaster General, a representation
as faithful as it is spirited of his contour and
appearance. Mr. Kendall's present position is
one of the proudest ever won by the mere force of
personal character and talent, working out a uni-
form political principle, and deriving not the small-
est aid from adventitious circumstances of any
description. And we feel that we can do the
country no more essential service, than to place
before its youth the salutary example and stimu-
lus of Mr. Kendall's striking history. As a les-
son at once impressive and instructive, and as the
most effectual means of opening the eyes of Mr.
Kendall's political enemies, to the great wrong
and injustice which their blind hostility had been
led to perpetrate, in defaming with perpetual in-
sult and untruth the person and character of a
man whose whole history and life present a living
refutation of aspersion.

Mr. Kendall was born August 16th 1789, in
Dunstable, Massachusetts, of the plain and hardy
yeomanry of that secluded district, being the
sixth of twelve children, three of whom were
daughters. Dunstable is a township of farmers,
giving about a hundred and twenty votes; and
the character of its population may be estimated
from the fact that they have never had a lawyer
residing among them. Doctors, too, have often
made the experiment of its healthy air and sim-
ple habits, but were soon starved out, and left it
in despair of ever getting a patient. Until re-
cently they have had no merchant, and scarcely
ever a pauper, but, true to the instincts of New
England, they have generally managed to support
their preacher. The place is remarkable for long-
evity. Mr. Kendall's father is now living at
the age of eighty-five, his mother having died
about six years ago at the age of seventy-six, on
the spot where his grandfather and grandmother
had settled down at their marriage, and where,
after climbing life's hill together, they lay down
peacefully at the foot of its gentle descent, in the
full ripeness of honorable old age—having num-
bered, the former eighty-four, and the latter eighty-
five years. Many of the old residents of the
vicinity have lived to a like age, and several have
exceeded ninety. To the hereditary strength of
constitution, naturally to be derived from such a
stock, is doubtless to be attributed Mr. Kendal-
l's ability to endure, in his depressed state of
health, the extreme, unrelaxing severity of his
present official labors. His parents were from
early life professors of religion, and none were
ever more true in their uniform way of life, to
their profession. Such was the neighborhood,
and such the home influences, in the midst of
which the early years of the subject of the pres-
ent sketch, were passed.

Mr. Kendall was, as matter of course, raised
to labor on his father's farm. His opportunities
for education in early boyhood, were the same as
those of other farmer's boys in that region, con-
sisting altogether of the country free schools.
Before he was old enough to render his labor val-
uable on the farm, he went to a woman school
each summer for about two months, and to a
man school in the winter for about the same
length of time. But after attaining the age of
eight or ten years, he could no longer be spared
at all in the summer; and soon afterwards, his
older brothers leaving home, he was not able to
enjoy the advantage of even this rudimentary
schooling, for several seasons, for more than
from four to six weeks in the winter. It may well,
however, be questioned whether this neglected
and piecemeal mode of picking up an education
so common among the hardy and hearted yeo-
manry of our country, is not far preferable, in its
ultimate influence on the formation of character,
to the hot-bed system so much in practice in our
cities, of which the effect is too often, not only
injurious in a physical point of view, but enervat-
ing to the mind by too precocious develop-
ment, so as to plant early and deeply the seeds
of mental and moral disease the evil effects of
which remain perceptible through life. He from
the earliest age evinced an earnest thirst after in-
formation, and remarkable facility in its acqui-
sition; and his case seems to deserve to be cited
among the many already on record as examples,
of the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties.
He was fond of school, obedient to his teachers,
and assiduous in his studies, and at home devour-
ed eagerly every thing of interest that he could
get within his reach, and in his way. There was
a small library in the township, all the works in
which having reference to geography, history,
science and general literature, he read through
before he was fifteen years old. In the summer
his father allowed his boys a rest of about two
hours in the middle of the day. This intermis-
sion of labor, was also the long winter evenings,
he applied to reading.

His taste for books and his rapid progress at-
tracted attention and remarks, which made his fa-